

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on April 20, 2009 has been entered.

Claims 1-20 are pending.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

in response to a user's request for at least one service relating to a service provider's network, providing an agent for installation on the user's premises and for coupling to the service provider's network via a physical connection;

automatically detecting at the agent an installation of a communications device to a local network coupled to the agent, the communications device being a telephone

lacking a display, ~~the plurality of user-selectable service options related to non-visual user interface services~~; and

automatically offering via the communications device a plurality user-selectable service options relating to the service provider's network and relating to at least one capability of the communications device, the at least one capability detected by the agent, the plurality of user-selectable service options related to non-visual user interface services; and

in response to a selection of at least one service option from the plurality of service options, providing via the agent a user connection address.

19. (Currently Amended) A memory device comprising instructions for performing activities comprising:

in response to an user's request for at least one service relating to a service provider's network, providing an agent for installation on the user's premises and for coupling to the service provider's network via a physical connection;

automatically detecting at the agent an installation of a communications device to a local network coupled to the agent, the communications device being a telephone lacking a display, ~~the plurality of user-selectable service options related to non-visual user interface services~~;

automatically offering via the communications device a plurality of user-selectable service options relating to the service provider's network and relating to at least one

capability of the communications device, the at least one capability detected by the agent, the plurality of user-selectable service options related to non-visual user interface services; and

in response to a selection of at least one service option from the plurality of service options, providing via the agent a user connection address.

20. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

an agent provided in response to an user's request for at least one service relating to a service provider's network, said agent provided for installation on the user's premises and for coupling to the service provider's network via a physical connection, said agent comprising a detector adapted to automatically detect an installation of an communications device on a local network coupled to said agent, the communications device being a telephone lacking a display, ~~the plurality of user-selectable service options related to non-visual user interface services~~; and

a user interface adapted to automatically offer via the communications device a plurality of user-selectable service options relating to the service provider's network, the plurality of user-selectable service options related to non-visual user interface services, a selection of at least one user-selectable service option from the plurality of user-selectable service options automatically transmitted via said agent to the service provider's network and resulting in the provision via said agent of a user connection address.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Michael Haynes (Reg. # 40,014) on June 30, 2009.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-20 are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRENDAN Y. HIGA whose telephone number is (571)272-5823. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571)272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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